

BOWLAND  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT

FOR 1937

J. H. FAIRWEATHER

M.R.C.P., M.D. Ch.B., D.P.H.,  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

CLITHEROE  
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**ANNUAL**

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# BOWLAND RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

## YEAR 1937

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*Chairman* - - - R. HITCHIN, Esq., J.P., C.C.

*Chairman Sanitary Committee* - G. ROBINSON, Esq.

*Vice-Chairman Sanitary Committee* - J. WATSON, Esq.

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### COUNCILLORS

| <i>Parish</i>                   | <i>COUNCILLOR</i>      |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| Bashall Eaves and Great Mitton  | G. ROBINSON            |
| Bolton-by-Bowland               | M. N. WRIGHT, J.P.     |
| Bowland Forest, Higher Division | J. WHITAKER            |
| Bowland Forest, Lower Division  | S. WALMSLEY            |
| West Bradford                   | R. HITCHIN, J.P., C.C. |
| Easington                       | J. EASTWOOD            |
| Gisburn and Horton              | H. SPEAK               |
| Gisburn Forest                  | T. ROBINSON            |
| Grindleton                      | T. HOLGATE             |
| Newton                          | J. WATSON              |
| Paythorne and Newholme          | H. KAYLEY              |
| Rimington and Middop            | H. R. HARTLEY          |
| Sawley                          | W. PROCTOR             |
| Slaidburn                       | T. WALKER              |
| Waddington                      | C. CLARK               |

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*Clerk and Financial Officer*.....C. F. CLARKE

*Medical Officer of Health*.....J. H. FAIRWEATHER, D.P.H.

*Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor*..J. HINCHLIFFE, A.R.San.I.,  
M.I.M.& C.E.

*Meat and Foods Inspector and Second Sanitary Inspector*.....  
E. J. BANNER, A.R.San.I., A.M.I.S.E.



TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
BOWLAND RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Sixth Annual Report, drawn up under the headings requested by the Ministry of Health.

An outstanding feature of it is the disclosure of the continued downward trend of the population statistics of our area.

There are 209 people less in the area than in 1933, when our population was 5,235, and the decline has continued year by year. This year the population is less by 89.

This occurs at a time when the cry of the Minister of Health is "Back to the land," and, in view of the fact that unemployment is much more widespread in neighbouring towns, than in our country area, it is difficult to understand why people should flock from the country to the towns. The problem obtains in other Rural Districts.

It is in the interests, both of the country generally and of our area, that the Council should take what steps it can to stem this tide.

One reason for emigration to towns may well be the better housing conditions that obtain there, where one house in every four is a post-war type. As an index, for instance, quite apart from the structure of country cottages and the absence of baths, etc., out of the 1,471 houses in our area only 177 are on a publicly owned water supply, and only 200 are on the water carriage system. It is sometimes urged that a Rural Council need not have so high a standard as a Town Council, because a rural area already stands at a natural advantage over a town area, as in such matters as air and light, but people to-day are familiar with amenities of which their forefathers never dreamed, and, if they cannot obtain them in old fashioned country houses, their discontent increases, and they tend to leave work on the land, and the country districts.

Although people are inexpressive, there is probably a need in all our villages for more houses of the artisan type, and one method of combating the decline in population would be for the Council to erect houses of this type under the very favourable terms now offered to Rural Districts by the Minister of Health.

Another method would be for landlords to make use of the very attractive terms offered by the Ministry for modernisation of country cottages under the Housing (Rural Workers) Act, indicated on pages 33 and 34 of this report.

But as a cause of decline in population, the low birth rate is probably a greater factor than antiquated housing conditions.

The parents who now have families of one or two children, are themselves commonly from families of four or five—families which had to face harder economic conditions than are faced to-day. Still they appeared to have had, at least, as much happiness and interest in life as the small family of to-day, and it is of course generally agreed that the only child is at a grave disadvantage.

It seems to me that this extreme interference with the natural trend of things is bound to produce gross reactions—reactions in the happiness and prosperity of the individual and of the nation—and is already doing so.

The birth rate is only about half of what it was seventy years ago, and there never was a time when so much attention was paid to maternal welfare as is paid to-day.

Regarding the public health administration of the district, the year has again been one of considerable activity—erection of Council houses, abatement of overcrowding, sewerage of Grindleton, provision of water supply to Newton, etc., all claiming attention, and much remains to be done.

I would beg to express my indebtedness to the officials of the Council for their unfailing kindness and consideration throughout the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. H. FAIRWEATHER

COLBORNE HOUSE,  
CLITHEROE.

June, 1938

# BOWLAND RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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## ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

### MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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#### SECTION A. STATISTICS OF NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

The area of the Rural District of Bowland is 83,343 acres.

The Registrar-General's estimate of resident population for the middle of the year 1937 is 5,026, a decrease of 89.

Last year the decrease was 15.

The number of inhabited houses at the end of the year, according to the Rate books, was 1,471, as compared with 1,464 in 1936.

The population during the last ten years is shown in the following table :—

| <i>Year</i> | <i>Population</i> | <i>Year</i> | <i>Population</i> |
|-------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| 1928        | .... 5263         | 1933        | .... 5235         |
| 1929        | .... 5222         | 1934        | .... 5135         |
| 1930        | .... —            | 1935        | .... 5130         |
| 1931        | .... 5560         | 1936        | .... 5115         |
| 1932        | .... 5463         | 1937        | .... 5026         |

Agriculture is the main occupation of the inhabitants. There are two cotton mills in the district, and one felt works.

Rateable Value at 1st April, 1937, £36,389, an increase of £75 on last year.

The sum represented by a penny rate is £144 (£143 last year).

The following table gives some idea of the population of the various townships. It is the latest available table for this purpose (1931).

| <i>Townships</i>                        | <i>Acreage</i> | <i>Population</i> |
|---|----------------|-------------------|
| Bashall Eaves .....                     | 3807           | 209               |
| Bolton-by-Bowland .....                 | 5943           | 569               |
| Bowland Forest,<br>Higher Division..... | 19744          | 199               |
| Bowland Forest,<br>Lower Division.....  | 5501           | 237               |
| Bradford West .....                     | 1957           | 323               |
| Easington .....                         | 9203           | 504               |
| Gisburn .....                           | 1998           | 409               |
| Gisburn Forest .....                    | 4861           | 195               |
| Grindleton .....                        | 3780           | 705               |
| Horton .....                            | 2021           | 88                |
| Middop .....                            | 1162           | 56                |
| Mitton Great.....                       | 1727           | 181               |
| Newsholme .....                         | 752            | 53                |
| Newton .....                            | 5867           | 233               |
| Paythorne .....                         | 2638           | 115               |
| Rimington .....                         | 3084           | 323               |
| Sawley .....                            | 2106           | 138               |
| Slaidburn .....                         | 5173           | 448               |
| Waddington .....                        | 2074           | 646               |

## **Meteorological Data**

*(Observations taken at Stonyhurst Observatory, 1937)*

The rainfall was 33.217 inches. Average 47.310 inches.  
(46.246 inches in 1936).

The total amount of bright sunshine was 1,229.6 hours.  
Average 1,313.0 hours. (1,235.4 hours in 1936).

Rain fell on 210 days. Average 207 days. (214 days in 1936).

There was bright sunshine on 284 days. Average 278 days. (287 days in 1936).

Rainfall average is for the past 90 years.

Sunshine average is for the past 57 years.

The rainfall of 1937 was the third lowest in the 90 years of the Stonyhurst records. The two lower values were :

|           |        |        |
|-----------|--------|--------|
| 1887..... | 31.250 | inches |
| 1933..... | 32.723 | inches |

### Vital Statistics

| LIVE BIRTHS—    | Total | Male | Female |
|-----------------|-------|------|--------|
| Legitimate ..   | 63    | ..   | 32     |
| Illegitimate .. | —     | ..   | —      |
| Total ....      | 63    | ..   | 31     |

BIRTH RATE per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 12.53.

| STILL BIRTHS—                                     | Total | Male | Female |
|---|-------|------|--------|
| Legitimate ..                                     | 3     | ..   | 1      |
| Illegitimate ..                                   | 1     | ..   | 1      |
| Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births..... |       |      | 59.70  |

| DEATHS ..... | Total | Male | Female |
|--------------|-------|------|--------|
|              | 70    | ..   | 34     |

(After correction by the inward transfer of residents dying outside the district and the outward transfer of non-residents dying inside the district).

DEATH RATE per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 13.92

Deaths from Puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List).

|                                       | Deaths |
|---------------------------------------|--------|
| No. 29. Puerperal Sepsis.....         | Nil.   |
| No. 30. Other Causes (puerperal)..... | 1      |

|  |      |
|--|------|
| Rates per 1,000 (total live and still births) :— |      |
| Puerperal Sepsis.....                            | Nil. |
| Other Causes (Puerperal).....                    | 14.9 |

#### Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| All infants per 1,000 live births.....                    | 31.74 |
| Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births.....  | 31.74 |
| Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births.. | Nil   |

|                                       |      |
|---------------------------------------|------|
| Deaths from Measles (all ages).....   | Nil. |
| Whooping Cough (all ages).....        | Nil. |
| Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)..... | Nil. |
| Cancer .....                          | 8    |

#### Birth Rate

The birth rate is again low, being 12.53 per 1,000 of the population. The birth rate for England and Wales was 14.9 so that we are again below the average ; the present rate shows an increase of 2.77 on last year.

The death rate is 13.92. There is, therefore, a natural decrease (excess of deaths over births of population), of 1.39 per 1,000—as compared with 4.69 last year and as against a natural increase (excess of births over deaths) for England and Wales for 1937 of 2.5 per 1,000 population.

#### BIRTH RATE FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS

| Year | Rate per 1,000<br>of Population | Year | Rate per 1,000<br>of Population |
|------|---------------------------------|------|---------------------------------|
| 1928 | 18.62                           | 1933 | 11.46                           |
| 1929 | 12.63                           | 1934 | 9.73                            |
| 1930 | 14.55                           | 1935 | 10.91                           |
| 1931 | 14.02                           | 1936 | 10.36                           |
| 1932 | 10.43                           | 1937 | 12.53                           |

#### Death Rate

The total number of deaths in the Area of residents and those belonging to the District who have died elsewhere was 70. This is equal to a death rate of 13.92 per 1,000 of population, as compared with 15.05 the previous year, a decrease of 1.13. The annual death rate for England and Wales during 1937 was 12.4, the death rate, therefore is higher than the average.

## DEATHS DURING THE PAST TEN YEARS

| Year | Rate per 1,000<br>of Population | Year | Rate per 1,000<br>of Population |
|------|---------------------------------|------|---------------------------------|
| 1928 | 8.36                            | 1933 | 11.07                           |
| 1929 | 12.25                           | 1934 | 10.32                           |
| 1930 | 10.14                           | 1935 | 12.67                           |
| 1931 | 12.05                           | 1936 | 15.05                           |
| 1932 | 10.98                           | 1937 | 13.92                           |

## ADJUSTED DEATH RATE

To make the death rate comparable with England and Wales we must multiply the crude death rate, 13.92 by the comparability factor for the Bowland District, which is 0.99—the product being 13.78. The adjusted death rate, therefore, or relative mortality rate is 13.78 per 1,000 for this area, as against 12.40 for England and Wales generally.

The meaning of the term "Adjusted Death Rate" was fully explained in my report for 1934.

## INFANTILE MORTALITY

Deaths of Infants under one year of age :

|                        | Male | Female | Total |
|------------------------|------|--------|-------|
| Legitimate . . . . .   | 2    | ..     | .. 2  |
| Illegitimate . . . . . | —    | ..     | .. —  |

## INFANTILE DEATHS FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS

| Year | Rate per<br>1,000 births | Year | Rate per<br>1,000 births |
|------|--------------------------|------|--------------------------|
| 1928 | 61                       | 1933 | 43                       |
| 1929 | 15                       | 1934 | 40                       |
| 1930 | 65                       | 1935 | 71                       |
| 1931 | 75                       | 1936 | 94                       |
| 1932 | 35                       | 1937 | 31                       |

This year the Infantile Mortality (deaths under 1 year per 1,000 births) in this area is lower than for England and Wales generally, being 31 for Bowland, as against 58 for England and Wales.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1937

*Disease*

Male

Female

|  |   |    |   |
|--|---|----|---|
| 1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers.....                               | — | .. | — |
| 2. Measles .....   | — | .. | — |
| 3. Scarlet Fever.....  | — | .. | — |
| 4. Whooping Cough .....  | — | .. | — |
| 5. Diphtheria .....  | — | .. | — |
| 6. Influenza .....   | 1 | .. | — |
| 7. Encephalitic Lethargica .....                                     | 1 | .. | — |
| 8. Cerebro-spinal Fever.....   | — | .. | — |
| 9. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.....                           | 1 | .. | 1 |
| 10. Other Tuberculosis Diseases.....                                 | — | .. | — |
| 11. Syphilis .....   | — | .. | — |
| 12. General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes<br>Dorsalis .....         | — | .. | — |
| 13. Cancer, Malignant Disease.....                                   | 3 | .. | 5 |
| 14. Diabetes .....   | — | .. | 1 |
| 15. Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.....                                   | — | .. | 2 |
| 16. Heart Disease.....   | 9 | —  | 8 |
| 17. Aneurysm .....   | — | .. | — |
| 18. Other Circulatory Diseases.....                                  | 1 | .. | 4 |
| 19. Bronchitis .....   | — | .. | — |
| 20. Pneumonia (all forms).....                                       | 4 | .. | 2 |
| 21. Other Respiratory Diseases.....                                  | 1 | .. | — |
| 22. Peptic Ulcer.....  | — | .. | — |
| 23. Diarrhoea, etc. (under two years).....                           | — | .. | — |
| 24. Appendicitis .....   | — | .. | — |
| 25. Cirrhosis of Liver.....  | — | .. | — |
| 26. Other Diseases of Liver, etc.....                                | — | .. | — |
| 27. Other Digestive Diseases.....                                    | — | .. | 2 |
| 28. Acute and Chronic Nephritis.....                                 | 1 | .. | 2 |
| 29. Puerperal Sepsis.....  | — | .. | — |
| 30. Other Puerperal Causes.....                                      | — | .. | 1 |
| 31. Congenital Debility, Premature Birth,<br>Malformations, etc..... | 2 | .. | — |
| 32. Senility .....   | 2 | .. | 2 |
| 33. Suicide .....  | 1 | .. | — |
| 34. Other Violence .....   | 6 | .. | — |
| 35. Other Defined Diseases.....                                      | 1 | .. | 6 |
| 36. Causes Ill-defined or Unknown.....                               | — | .. | — |

34 .. 36

As regards the common causes of death, Diseases of the Heart head the list as usual (17 cases), but most of these cases occur in the late and degenerative phase of life ; next comes Cancer (8 cases) and then Pneumonia (6 cases).

Cancer does not appear to be on the increase as a cause of death, the figures for each year beginning 1930 being as follows : 9, 4, 8, 7, 8, 7, 8, 8. In 1924 the number of deaths from this disease was 8 also.

There is no evidence to show that any conditions of occupations or environment had any prejudicial effect on health, except in so far as fumes from a local cement works cause a nuisance in the area.

There is but little unemployment in this country district.

## **SECTION B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA**

### **i. Public Health Officers of the Authority**

1. J. HINCHLIFFE, Associate Member Royal Sanitary Institute.  
Member Institution of Municipal and County Engineers

*Offices* : Surveyor, Engineer and Sanitary Inspector  
Whole time member of the staff.

2. E. J. BANNER, Associate Member Royal Sanitary Institute.  
Associate Member Institution of Sanitary Engineers.

*Offices* : Meat and Foods Inspector, Second Sanitary Inspector  
Whole time member of the staff.

3. J. H. FAIRWEATHER, M.R.C.P., M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

*Office* : Medical Officer of Health  
Part-time member of the staff

As indicated in my report for 1936, it was decided to allocate definite duties to the Public Health Officers. This specific division of labours has been carried out and has worked satisfactorily.

### **ii. Nursing in the Home**

The Ribblesdale District Nursing Association attend to patients through their itinerant nurses, who call at houses as required, in cases of non-infectious sickness, maternity and midwifery.

With the help of the County Council, a third nurse has this year been appointed, in order that child welfare work may also be undertaken. Under this new arrangement, the nurses keep babies under observation by calling at their homes about every month, during their first year, and about every three months thereafter until the child reaches five years. After that, in addition to school medical examination at intervals of several years, the nurses continue the supervision of these children by visits to the elementary schools in the area about every three months.

### **iii. Laboratory Facilities**

The County Laboratory at Wakefield is used for the examination of swabs, sputa, blood, and other clinical material and helps in the diagnosis of diphtheria, tuberculosis, typhoid, para-typhoid, undulant fever and venereal diseases. The same laboratory is used for the examination of water, milk and foodstuffs. These examinations are carried out without expense to patients or their medical practitioners.

### **iv. Legislation in Force. (Adoptive Acts).**

All sections of Part II., III and IV., with the exceptions of Sections 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 24 and 35 of Part II., and Sections 39 and 44 of Part III. of the Public Health Act, 1925 (adopted 1929)

Local Government and Other Officers Superannuation Act, 1922 (adopted 1935).

## **BYELAWS AND REGULATIONS IN FORCE**

New Streets and Buildings (Approved 1910) Sections 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 33 and 47 were revised and a new bye-law added in connection with the height of rooms used for human habitation. (Approved 1915).

### **v. Hospitals**

(a) General Medical and Surgical

BLACKBURN ROYAL INFIRMARY

(b) General Infectious Diseases

AUSTWICK FEVER HOSPITAL

BLACKBURN FEVER HOSPITAL

(c) Small Pox

BLACKBURN CORPORATION FEVER HOSPITAL

(d) Maternity

SKIPTON AND DISTRICT HOSPITAL (by arrangement  
with West Riding County Council)  
BLACKBURN ROYAL INFIRMARY

(e) Mental Disease

MENSTON MENTAL HOSPITAL

(f) Tuberculosis

VARIOUS (by arrangement with West Riding  
County Council)

(g) Public Assistance Institution

SETTLE

## vi. Ambulance Facilities

By arrangement with the Home Office, the Clitheroe Borough Ambulance is available when necessary for road accidents occurring in the Bowland Area by communicating with the Clitheroe Police Station.

If two ambulances are required or the police ambulance is not available the ambulance of Messrs. Tomlinsons (Clitheroe) Ltd. can be requisitioned for the conveyance of patients arising from accidents within the area to the nearest hospital.

The ambulances belonging to Austwick and Blackburn Fever Hospitals are available for conveyance of cases of infectious disease to those hospitals.

The ambulance facilities are adequate and co-ordinated.

## vii. Clinics and Treatment Centres

(i.) A Tuberculosis Officer of the West Riding County Council holds a session from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the last Wednesday of each month for the diagnosis and control of cases of tuberculosis at Bowland Chambers, Harris Court, Wellgate, Clitheroe.

There are no child welfare clinics in the area, but a nurse provided by the West Riding County Council visits houses on receipt of notification of birth in suitable cases.

Attention to the eyes and teeth of school children, where necessary, is given through the school medical service of the West Riding County Council, the children being examined periodically by the School Medical Officers.

### (ii). VENEREAL DISEASES

A clinic provided at Blackburn Royal Infirmary makes provision for these cases, without cost to the patient.

|                    |           |           |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Male patients .... | Tuesdays  | 5.0 p.m.  |
|                    | Fridays   | 7.30 p.m. |
| Female patients .. | Mondays   | 5.30 p.m. |
|                    | Thursdays | 6.0 p.m.  |

### (iii). ANTE-NATAL CARE

There is no Ante-Natal Clinic but the District Nurses, who are certified midwives, pay ante-natal visits to all patients under their charge and in cases where a doctor has not been engaged, refer the patient to their medical man if necessary.

## SECTION C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### Sanitary Inspection of the Area

|   |      |
|---|------|
| Total number of Inspections made in 1937 for Nuisances only | 28   |
| Number of Nuisances found after inspections, 1937.....      | 12   |
| Number of Nuisances in hand at end of 1936.....             | 2    |
| Number of Nuisances abated during 1937.....                 | 13   |
| Number of Nuisances outstanding at end of 1937.....         | 1    |
| Number of Informal Notices served.....                      | 8    |
| Number of Informal Notices complied with.....               | 8    |
| Number of Statutory Notices served.....                     | 4    |
| Number of Statutory Notices complied with.....              | 3    |
| Number of Summons or other Legal Proceeding.....            | Nil. |

### Water Supplies

A detailed account of these was given in my report for 1936, and Mr. J. Hinchliffe reports fully on the present position on page 19. The numbers of houses on the public supply are:— Grindleton, 138, Tosside 9, Rimington 30; Total 177—and there are 1,471 inhabited houses in the area.

My greatest concern is regarding Bashall Eaves. For many years this village has had a supply which is neither reliable as to quality or quantity, and the Council should view the matter as one of urgency. Apart from the danger to consumers of a supply which is often impure, it is impossible to export pure milk from farms where the utensils have to be washed in impure water.

The supply to Holden was found to be polluted and the matter remedied.

Examination of every supply in the area ought to be made in order to ensure the constant safety of the supplies.

Continued freedom from water-borne diseases is apt to lull us into a false sense of security, but the recent serious and extensive outbreaks of Typhoid Fever which have occurred in various parts of the country, during the last few years, are a stern reminder that the price of safety is constant vigilance.

The position as regards the unsatisfactory water supplies mentioned in my report for 1936 is now as follows :—

1. **BONNY BLACKS FARM, GISBURN.** The owner has promised to lay a new line of pipes from a fresh source, but has not as yet carried this out.

2. **FOLLY HALL, GRINDLETON.** Again nothing has been done. Action is now possible under Public Health Act, 1936 (Section 140), and ought to be taken.

3. **THREAP GREEN FARM, BOLTON-BY-BOWLAND.** A sample is being taken. It is expected that this supply will now be in order.

4. **ACRELANDS FARM.** Position unchanged.

5. **GRINDLETON, LANE ENDS.** A sample taken from the trough and suppling this hamlet was found satisfactory. The supply is being kept under observation.

6. **WHITEWELL SCHOOL.** The tank is now being kept clean and the water is therefore satisfactory.

7. **NEW HOUSE, WIGGLESWORTH.** The rain water tanks have been enlarged. It is still to be determined whether this will obviate the shortage. The polluted well is no longer used for drinking purposes.

The Rimington supply is now completely satisfactory and the Council ought to take steps forthwith, to ensure that Stopper Lane connects up to this supply.

## WATER SUPPLIES GENERALLY

An endeavour is now being made to examine the supply to each village twice a year (winter and summer) in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Health.

Twelve examinations were made this year and three found polluted. (See later).

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The laying of a new sewer in Grindleton was begun this year. The Council decided to accept the suggestion of the Ministry of Health, referred to in my last report, and spread the cost of the works over the whole area.

Slaidburn and West Bradford. These villages are also in need of being sewered. Offensive odours obtrude themselves on passers-by in certain parts of the latter village.

The owner of the Felt Works at Grindleton has now installed two filters to deal with the effluent and we assume the Rivers Board now find this to be in order.

As regards Scavenging. 85% of refuse is disposed of by tipping ; 15% by farmers ; none by destruction.

## CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

Privy-Middens, 887.

Number of Pail or Tub Closets, 379.

Number of Water Closets, 201.

Number of Waste Water Closets, 4.

Number of Privies reconstructed during 1937 : (a) As Water Closets, Nil ; (b) Others, 5.

Number of Closets constructed in 1937 for new houses : (a) Water Closets, 7 ; (b) Others, Nil.

Number of additional Closets provided in 1936 for old property : (a) Water Closets, Nil. ; (b) Others, 2.

The conversion of the whole of the existing Closet accommodation in the sewered area of Grindleton is contemplated. Similar conversions should be carried out at Waddington and Bolton-by-Bowland, the property owners, in the interests of health and pleasantness, availing themselves of the fact that at some expense, these villages have now all been sewered.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING

See Sanitary Inspector's Report.

The Rimington Tip is now in a satisfactory condition.

The total cost of scavenging the area, excluding sewage disposal, for the year 1937 was £442, and for the year 1936 the cost was £350, and for 1935 £339.

## SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

There is one privately owned Swimming Pool in the area open to the public, situate at Hodder Bridge Hotel, Mitton. This was rarely in use during the year and it was not found possible to obtain a sample of the water for analysis.

## ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

None found.

## SCHOOLS

The fourteen schools in the district have all been inspected during the year, and found for the most part very clean.

Rimington school was closed during the year owing to lack of scholars and cost of upkeep.

The following Schools were closed for the periods stated on account of the Influenza epidemic.

25th to 29th January inclusive—Bolton-by-Bowland C.E. School  
21st to 29th January inclusive—Gisburn Forest, Tosside Parochial  
26th to 29th January inclusive—

Waddington and West Bradford C.E.  
Slaidburn Brennands Endowed  
Gisburn Council  
Newton in Bowland C.E.  
Rimington Council  
Paythorne Council  
Bowland Forest, Thorneyholme R.C.  
Bowland Forest, Whitewell C.E.  
Great Mitton C.E.  
Grindleton Lane Ends Council

26th January to 2nd February inclusive—Grindleton C.E.

26th to 2nd February inclusive—Bashall Eaves C.E.

28th January to 3rd February inclusive—Sawley Council School

Bashall Eaves C.E. School was also closed from June 30th to July 9th inclusive, on account of chicken pox and Scarlet Fever.

#### OFFENSIVE TRADES

See report of Mr. E. J. Banner.

#### BAKEHOUSES

There are three Bakehouses in the district, and a total number of 12 inspections have been made of them by the Sanitary Inspector. They were found in a clean and satisfactory condition. None of them are underground.

# SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

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The following is the Annual Report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector, Mr. J. Hinchliffe for the year ended December 31st, 1937 :

**MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,**

I respectfully beg to submit to you my Report on the work in the Sanitary Department of the Council for which I am directly responsible for the year ended December 31st, 1937.

## **Factories and Workshops**

During the year 76 inspections of these premises were made as follows :—

|                               |    |
|-------------------------------|----|
| Factories.....                | 6  |
| Workshops and Workplaces..... | 70 |
|                               | 76 |

No serious nuisances were found on Inspection, and only on three occasions had notice of the cleanliness of the premises to be brought to the notice of the occupier.

## **Water Supplies**

Special attention has been paid during the year to the Analysis of practically the whole of the Water Supplies in the area. On the whole they have proved satisfactory and I append below observations on the supplies in the various Parishes.

### **WADDINGTON**

There is now an abundant supply of water piped direct from the Springs to the Village, and on Analysis the water was found to be practically sterile.

### **GRINDLETON AND SAWLEY**

These two Villages are supplied with water by the Council who purchase it in bulk from the Clitheroe Corporation. Owing to a shortage at the top end of the village of Grindleton the Council decided to remove the incrustation in the mains from the Clitheroe

Corporation main through the village to Clitheroe Shirtings Mill at the bottom of Grindleton Brow. The total distance is 2,630 lineal yards, and the cost of the work was £160 14s. 2d. A test was carried out on completion of the work to show what improvement had taken place with the following result :

*Before Scraping* : Volume of Water being delivered to Grindleton : 18.5 gallons per minute

*After Scraping* : Volume of Water being delivered to Grindleton : 85.7 gallons per minute

Numerous complaints have been received as to the colour of the water since the work was completed. This was to be expected as the scraping removes all incrustation down to the raw iron, and it usually takes some little time before this discolouration is eliminated. The colour however has no detrimental effect on the quality of the water.

#### WEST BRADFORD

This village is supplied in bulk from the Clitheroe Corporation and distributed by a Water Committee.

#### BOLTON-BY-BOWLAND

This village is supplied by a privately owned supply which in times of drought has a tendency to become insufficient for normal requirements. The quality of the water, however, on analysis proved to be satisfactory.

#### GISBURN

This village is also supplied with water from a privately controlled water supply. Its deficiency in a normal Summer is a very serious matter, and with the influx of large numbers of the travelling public who make Gisburn a stopping place on their way to the West Coast, the consumption of water is multiplied to such an extent that the augmenting of the present supply from some other source, or alternatively, larger storage capacity is one of extreme urgency.

#### RIMINGTON

This Water Supply is owned by the Council and during the early part of the year we had trouble with unsatisfactory analysis of the water. This proved to be owing to the Filtration Plant not

working satisfactorily. After this matter had been rectified we took six monthly samples of the water on instructions from the Ministry of Health and they were all found to be satisfactory. Since that time no complaints of any kind have been received. The daily consumption from this supply is rather high but this is attributed to the large amount of water used for Milk cooling purposes and to the farms which have free supplies. The supply at the source, however, is adequate for present requirements, but if the daily consumption continues to increase it will be necessary to instal another Filter to deal with the quantity required.

#### TOSSIDE

This hamlet is also supplied direct by the Council and since the main at the source was renewed there has been no shortage of any kind.

#### BASHALL EAVES

This is a privately owned supply which in a normal Summer always proves inadequate as to quantity, and the farmers and other consumers have to cart water from other sources, which, to say the least, is a great inconvenience, especially to the farmers who are producing milk. The quality of the water at times leaves much to be desired, but on the last two or three occasions the analysis has proved satisfactory.

#### STOPPER LANE

The various properties at Stopper Lane have not yet been connected to the Council's main, but this will no doubt be carried out during 1938.

#### NEWTON

The Water Supplies at this village are seriously polluted, and during the early part of the year the Ministry of Health held an Inquiry into the Council's application for a loan to take a supply of water from the Fylde Water Boards main. The estimated cost of the Scheme is £1,520 and the work will be completed and the water laid on to the various properties early in 1938.

#### PAYTHORNE

This Township is still without a satisfactory supply of pure water. In Summer when the supplies to the various farms and other properties have given out, water is taken from a deep well

in the village but on analysis this supply is seriously polluted. The properties in this township are so few and scattered that the economic difficulties in providing a proper supply are so serious that the Council have not yet seriously considered this question.

### **GISBURN FOREST**

This parish is seriously short of water in Summer time owing to the small springs and water courses from which most of the farms derive their supplies drying up. The difficulty, however, of providing a piped supply to so scattered a township is very great, and presents the same economic problems as in Paythorne.

In concluding my remarks on Water Supplies, I am convinced that wherever possible Water Supplies should be under the control and supervision of the Local Authority, as in most cases of Water Committees, etc., who are not Statutory Undertakers, the supplies are left to look after themselves and no one can be held directly responsible if anything serious should occur. I cannot do better than quote the following from the Minister of Health's circular issued to Local Authorities and Statutory Water Companies on "Water Supplies."

"The Minister of Health feels it incumbent upon him, in the light of recent experience, to remind Water Undertakers of the serious responsibility which rests upon them in relation to the purity of the public water supplies which they control. The relative immunity from serious outbreaks of water-borne disease that the Country has long enjoyed must not be allowed to obscure the paramount importance of taking all possible steps to ensure that this responsibility is adequately discharged and every practicable precaution adopted to safeguard the purity of supplies. The Minister has no doubt that Water Undertakers generally will appreciate the need for maintaining the high standards of administration which are rightly demanded in a matter of such fundamental importance to Public Health, but the results that may ensue from neglect of precautionary measures are so serious that the Minister regards it as his duty, at the present time, to impress upon all water undertakers the imperative need for unremitting care in the supervision of the water supplies for which they are responsible."

### **Sewage and Sewage Disposal**

As previously reported the works at Waddington, Gisburn, Holden and Bolton-by-Bowland continue to carry out their

functions very satisfactorily, and are regularly inspected by Inspectors from the West Riding Rivers Board who take samples of the effluents for analysis. No adverse reports have been received for the past ten years.

### **Rivers and Streams**

These are carefully examined throughout the district by Rivers Board and Fishery Inspectors for signs of pollution, but generally speaking all the rivers and streams in the Council's area are exceptionally free from contamination of any kind.

### **Scavenging**

This work is carried out by the Council's own workmen at Waddington, West Bradford, Grindleton, Sawley, Holden, Bolton-by-Bowland, Gisburn, Rimington and Slaidburn. The villages of Rimington and Sawley have been added during the present year. The question of disposing of Dry Refuse from the villages of West Bradford, Grindleton and Bolton-by-Bowland owing to the Tips at those places becoming full, has been discussed by the Council and during the coming year this refuse will be taken to a tip at Scott Laithe, Bolton-by-Bowland kindly placed at the disposal of the Council by Major M. N. Wright.

### **Sewers and Drains**

During the year the Coulthurst Estate laid a new sewer to drain properties on the estate, and this has been connected to the Council's Sewer in Lea Wood Brow, Waddington. The work of Sewering the village of Grindleton was commenced in June of this year, and the sewers and Sewage Disposal Works will be ready for use probably about the middle of 1938.

### **Shops Act, 1936**

This Act which came into force on the 1st January, 1937, is administered so far as districts with a population of under 20,000 are concerned by County Councils, with the exception of Section 10 (1) and 13 (3).

### **New Buildings**

Fourteen Plans were deposited with me during the year and approved by the Council and Town Planning Committee. Of this number seven were in respect of new houses at the following

places :—Slaidburn (2), Waddington (7), Holden (extensions to Lodge), Higher Hodder (extensions to Hodder View), Grindleton (1), Rimington (1),. The others were in respect of a new Chapel at Dale Head, Cowsheds, Garage, etc.

### **Bakehouses**

Owing to the ever increasing number of Bread Vans operating in the district the premises used as Bakehouses at Bolton-by-Bowland and Waddington have closed. This now leaves three Retail Bakehouses in the district situate at Waddington (1), Grindleton (2).

### **Analysis of Water Supplies**

During the year, 12 samples were taken for Analysis at the following places :—Rimington (6), Bolton-by-Bowland, (1), Waddington (1), Gisburn (1), Paythorne (1), Bashall Eaves (1), and Slaidburn (1).

Of these, three were found to be polluted being situate at Rimington (1), Gisburn (1), Paythorne (1).

In concluding my report, Mr. Chairman, I must thank you and the other members of the Sanitary Committee for your help and support during the year ended December 31st, 1937, and I think we can say that progress in various ways has been achieved. The ever increasing legislation, which the Government and its Departments are continually asking local authorities to shoulder with regard to increased amenities and efficiency, cannot however, be achieved without showing itself in increased administrative charges. These in turn reflect themselves in the Rates, and unless these are to become a very serious burden the progress towards the ideal, which we would all like to see, should be scrutinised very carefully by both local authorities and its officers.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JAS. HINCHLIFFE,

M. Inst. Mun. & Cty. E., A.R.San.I.

# SANITARY, MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTOR'S REPORT

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The following is the Annual Report of the Sanitary, Meat and Food Inspector, Mr. E. J. Banner, for the year ended December 31st, 1937 :—

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL,

I respectfully submit my report for the year 1937.

## Summary of Inspections

|   |      |
|---|------|
| Dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects..... | 378  |
| Inspections for Nuisances.....                    | 28   |
| Inspections of Cowsheds and Dairies.....          | 423  |
| Inspection of Slaughterhouses.....                | 393  |
| Inspection of Butchers' Shops.....                | 187  |
| Visits to farms for casual slaughtering.....      | 10   |
| Inspection of Offensive Trade Premises.....       | 32   |
| Visits re Infectious Diseases.....                | 23   |
| Inspection of Wood Huts, Caravans, &c.....        | 55   |
| Inspection of works in progress.....              | 88   |
| Other miscellaneous visits.....                   | 35   |
| <hr/>   |      |
| Total.....  | 1652 |

## Notices

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Statutory Notices served.....                       | 13 |
| Informal Notices served.....                        | 45 |
| Notices complied with (Statutory and Informal)..... | 53 |

## Nuisances Abated and Improvement Effected

### DWELLINGHOUSES

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Roofs and Chimneys repaired.....                       | 20 |
| Eaves guttering and fallpipes repaired or renewed..... | 25 |
| Houses where outside walls repaired.....               | 24 |
| Houses where inside walls repaired.....                | 18 |
| Floors repaired.....                                   | 25 |
| Stairs and doors repaired.....                         | 10 |
| Windows repaired.....                                  | 8  |

|                                     |    |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| Firegrates repaired or renewed..... | 10 |
| Houses where dampness remedied..... | 13 |
| New Sinks provided.....             | 9  |
| Yards and forecourts repaired.....  | 14 |
| Food Stores provided.....           | 7  |
| Ceilings repaired.....              | 15 |
| Outhouses repaired.....             | 5  |
| Dirty rooms cleansed.....           | 3  |
| Miscellaneous .....                 | 10 |

#### DRAINAGE

|                                       |    |
|---------------------------------------|----|
| Drains reconstructed or repaired..... | 15 |
| Premises redrained .....              | 3  |
| Choked drains released.....           | 4  |
| Cesspools provided .....              | 4  |
| Cesspools cleansed and repaired.....  | 2  |

#### CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Insanitary Privies converted to Pail Closets..... | 5 |
| Insanitary Privies abolished.....                 | 1 |
| New Pail Closets provided.....                    | 2 |
| Pail Closets repaired.....                        | 9 |

#### COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Roofs repaired .....                    | 7  |
| Inside walls rendered with cement.....  | 18 |
| Floors repaired or renewed.....         | 20 |
| Cowsheds where light improved.....      | 15 |
| Loft floors raised.....                 | 5  |
| Fresh air inlets provided.....          | 12 |
| Cowsheds redrained.....                 | 12 |
| Cowsheds where new stalls provided..... | 9  |
| Yards repaired.....                     | 13 |
| Manure Steads provided.....             | 7  |
| New Dairies erected.....                | 12 |
| Dairies reconstructed.....              | 8  |
| Dairy floors repaired.....              | 6  |
| New Cowsheds erected.....               | 12 |

#### MISCELLANEOUS

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Accumulations of manure or refuse removed..... | 3 |
| Slaughterhouses cleansed and limewashed.....   | 8 |
| Repairs to Slaughterhouses.....                | 2 |
| Streams cleansed.....                          | 1 |

## **Disinfections**

Disinfection of Infected Premises is carried out by Formalin Lamps and spraying with Formaldehyde. During the year 12 houses were disinfected by this method. Bedding is not removed for steam disinfection.

Disinfectants are supplied free for use in houses where a case of Infectious Disease has occurred.

## **Wood Huts, Caravans, etc.**

A survey of the Wood Huts and Caravans in the district was carried out during the year when 38 Wood Huts and 2 Caravans were located.

In most cases the structure of the premises are in a good condition and a number have separate rooms, permanent lavatory accommodation and drainage. 9 Huts and 1 Caravan are permanently occupied, and the remainder are only used temporary or during the summer months. Most of the premises are kept in a clean and sanitary condition. This class of dwelling does not appear to be on the increase.

## **Cowsheds, Dairies and Milk Supply**

It will be noted from the previous tabulated details, that a fair amount of constructional work has been carried out to cowsheds and dairies under the Milk and Dairies Acts and Orders. There are however still farms where milk is produced which are unsuitable in their present state.

Most of the buildings in the district are such that clean milk can be produced if only the methods and standards of cleanliness are satisfactory. Many producers fail in their duties through the lack of reasonable attention to necessary details.

Three complaints of dirty milk entering other districts were received, and upon making investigations it was evident that proper care had not been exercised during milking times.

The number of registered cowkeepers in the district is 376 and the number of cowsheds 715 (approx.)

63 samples of Ordinary Milk were taken and tested for sediment. The producer was notified the result of each sample taken from his premises and where it was found that clean milk was not being produced investigations were carried out and further samples taken until satisfactory results were obtained. This test is especially useful in educating producers as to the need for cleanliness and to the necessity for increasing care in their methods. Many producers and milkers understand visible dirt, whereas they find it difficult to grasp the results of bacterial counts.

19 samples of Ordinary Milk were taken and submitted to the County Laboratory for testing for the presence of Tuberculosis. 17 samples proved negative and 2 samples proved positive. In the case of the positive samples the matter was investigated by the County Veterinary Department.

### **Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936**

During the year 12 licences were granted by the County Council to farmers in the district to use the designation "Accredited" in respect of milk produced. The total number of licences now in force in the district is 37.

All the above mentioned licences are for the wholesale production of milk, one additional licence is also in force for bottling.

From observations it would appear that there are a number of milk producers in the district who do not show sufficient keenness in applying for licences to produce "Accredited" milk, for many could easily qualify for the extra 1d. per gallon with very little alteration to their premises. The reason for this attitude is often difficult to ascertain, but a number of farmers do not like to place themselves and their premises under further—what they regard as needless—restrictions and supervision.

158 samples of "Accredited" Milk were taken by the County Council of these samples 132 were satisfactory and 26 were unsatisfactory.

Samples of "Accredited" Milk are now tested by the Methylene Blue Reductase Test which supersedes the Bacterial Count Test. For a sample to comply with the standard it must not decolourize the methylene blue solution within  $5\frac{1}{2}$  hours if taken between the 1st November and 30th April or  $4\frac{1}{2}$  hours if taken between the 1st May and 31st October. One of the drawbacks of

this test as compared with the Bacterial Count Test is the fact that producers do not know whether they have produced a really good sample or one that has just passed the test. This is often disappointing as there is now no incentive to try and better the results of a previous sample.

### **Offensive Trades**

Two Offensive Trades are carried on in the district, Gut Scraping and the manufacture of Artificial Manure. Both these trades are in close proximity to a slaughterhouse and food production premises and are therefore not ideally situated. Various alterations have been carried out to the premises to minimize the nuisance from smells, alterations have also been carried out to the trade waste tanks and more supervision given to the treatment of the waste in order to prevent pollution of a nearby stream.

Inspection of the premises is regularly carried out and they are usually found in a clean and sanitary condition.

### **Housing**

Details of housing inspections and work carried out will be found in the tabulated statement at the commencement of my report. Further particulars on housing will be found in the Medical Officer's Report.

## **FOOD SUPPLY**

### **Slaughterhouses**

There are 8 slaughterhouses in the district of which 6 are registered and 2 are licenced annually. All were used regularly throughout the year. The structural conditions of the premises are good and with the exception of one, were always found in a clean and satisfactory condition.

All the animals slaughtered and meat sold in the district were of good quality ; this, however, does not imply that all were free from disease.

The slaughtering of pigs at farms and cottage property is most unsatisfactory, and should be discouraged. The majority of pigs are for sale and very little intended for home use.

There is no system of meat marketing in force and there are no meat stalls, but several butchers hawk meat round the district in covered vans.

During the year 393 visits were made to slaughterhouses, 187 visits to Butcher's Shops and 10 visits to farms for the casual slaughtering of pigs.

The number of carcases examined was as follows :—

|               |       |
|---------------|-------|
| Bovines ..... | 167   |
| Sheep .....   | 338   |
| Calves .....  | 3     |
| Pigs .....    | 3479  |
|               | _____ |
| Total.....    | 3987  |

As a result of these inspections the following diseased or unsound meat was dealt with :—

#### BOVINES

|                     |                              |
|---------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 Carcase and Offal | Tuberculosis with Emaciation |
| 1 Hind Quarter Beef | Decomposition                |
| 2 Plucks            | Tuberculosis                 |
| 3 Livers            | Cirrhosis                    |

#### SHEEP

|                     |              |
|---------------------|--------------|
| 1 Carcase and Offal | Emaciation   |
| 1 Carcase and Offal | Moribund     |
| 23 sets Intestines  | Putrefaction |

#### PIGS

|                        |                            |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| 7 Carcasses and Offals | Generalised Tuberculosis   |
| 3 Carcasses and Offals | Jaundice                   |
| 3 Carcasses and Offals | Decomposition              |
| 2 Carcasses and Offals | Moribund                   |
| 1 Carcase and Offal    | Fevered                    |
| 1 Carcase and Offal    | Pleurisy                   |
| 464-lbs. Pork          | Tuberculosis               |
| 56-lbs. Pork           | Bruising                   |
| 435 Heads              | Tuberculosis               |
| 173 Plucks             | Tuberculosis               |
| 73 Plucks              | Pneumonia, Congestion, &c. |
| 536 Stomachs           | Putrefaction               |

## MISCELLANEOUS

|                    |              |
|--------------------|--------------|
| 1 (24-lb.) tin Ham | Putrefaction |
| 2 Hams             | Putrefaction |

Total weight of meat unfit and voluntarily surrendered :—  
6 tons 1 cwt. 2 qrs.

Percentage of the number of animals inspected affected  
with disease other than Tuberculosis..... 2.7%

Percentage of the number of animals inspected affected  
with Tuberculosis..... 13.3%

## Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933

The main provisions of the above Act deal chiefly with the use of mechanically operated instruments for the stunning of animals in slaughterhouses and for the licencing of slaughtermen. During the year the Council passed a resolution that Section 1 of the Act shall apply to sheep, ewes, wethers, rams and lambs.

## Conclusion

I would take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the Council for the consideration and support that I have received in the execution of my varied duties and also to the Clerk of the Council whose valued advice is always so readily given.

(Signed) E. J. BANNER,

A.R.San.I., A.M.I.S.E.

## SECTION D. HOUSING

There has again been much activity in this connection during the year largely on account of the pressure exerted by the Ministry of Health in their campaign for the abolition of overcrowding and the improvement of housing conditions of the working classes.

In consequence of this it became necessary for the Council to erect 11 houses in order to fulfill its obligations under the recent Housing Acts.

An architect was appointed to prepare plans and supervise the erection of the houses and the work on all houses was commenced during the year in order that the Council may obtain the available grants.

The Council have never previously provided houses.

The houses are situate as follows :

|               |          |  |
|---------------|----------|--|
| West Bradford | 6 houses | 3 pairs of Semi-detached Non-Parlour type                          |
| Holden        | 3 houses | 1 block of 3 houses (2 houses non-parlour, one house parlour type) |
| Rimington     | 2 houses | One pair of Semi-detached Non-Parlour type                         |

As far as I am aware, overcrowding in the area has now been abated, but in order to satisfy all the requirements of the Ministry of Health a further survey (dimensional in nature) will have to be carried out.

### **Clearance Areas (Referred to in 1936 Report)**

#### **NO 1 AREA, CHURCH STREET, SLAIDBURN**

The three houses in this area are now empty and the Owner proposes to reconstruct.

#### **NO. 2 AREA, MOUNT PLEASANT, SLAIDBURN**

The inquiry in respect of this area has not yet been held as certain difficulties have been experienced in obtaining a suitable site for the erection of houses for tenants who would be displaced from the area. The possibilities of dealing with the property under the Rural Workers Act are now being investigated.

### **Demolition Orders** (Referred to in 1936 Report)

The Owner of a house at Sawley upon whom a demolition order was served submitted plans for the complete reconstruction of the property and to this the Council agreed.

The Owners have agreed to demolish the empty house at West Bradford.

There is still one demolition order to be dealt with at Slaidburn.

One closing order issued resulted in a County Court Appeal, judgment being given for the appellant. In view of the constant pressure exerted by the Ministry of Health to ensure that houses which do not come up to a reasonable standard should be closed, it is somewhat anomalous that the present state of the law should allow one standard for an individual unfit house and another standard for a group of two or more unfit houses.

### **Housing (Rural Workers) Act**

Very little work under this Act has been carried out. I consider that if more publicity were given to the large grants available under the Act (for the reconstruction and improvement of old property) owners of this class of property would avail themselves of the financial assistance offered.

The nature of the works in respect of which assistance may be given may consist of structural alterations, additions, provision of water supply, drainage or sanitary conveniences, or other like works and works of repair incidental thereto.

The scheme embraces where necessary, increase of light and ventilation, cure of dampness, introduction of electric light, provision of bath, sink, foodstore, outbuildings; and repairs to floors and stairs.

Under this Act grants may be obtained for improvements up to two-thirds of the cost of the work, subject to a maximum grant of £100 a house.

To qualify for grant :—

- (1) The cottage must be made fit to live in by modern standards.
- (2) The cost of the work must not be less than £50 a cottage.

- (3) The value of the cottage when the work is finished must not exceed £400.
- (4) For the next twenty years the cottage must be reserved for an agricultural worker or person of the same economic condition and the rent must not exceed the normal agricultural rent of the district, increased by 4 per cent. on the owner's share of the cost. The owner can free himself from this condition at any time on terms.

If the owner cannot raise his share of the cost of the work the local authority may lend him the money.

The following figures relate to a cottage which has already been reconditioned :—

|                        | £          |
|------------------------|------------|
| Cost of work.....      | 133        |
| Grant .....            | 88         |
| Net cost to owner..... | <u>£45</u> |

Permitted increase in rent . . . . .  $8\frac{1}{2}$ d. per week

If owner borrows from local authority  
at  $3\frac{7}{8}\%$  for 20 years :—

Cost to owner.....  $6\frac{1}{2}$ d. per week

Application for a grant should be made to the Clerk to the Council.

### **Van Dwellings**

A number of these exist in the area chiefly for use at week-ends.

No complaints have been received.

Details of these are given in the report of Mr. E. J. Banner.

### **General**

On the whole the housing conditions of this area are above the average. Numerous inspections of existing property have been made and a good number of repairs carried out under statutory and informal notices served.

Details of inspections and repairs carried out will be found classified in the report of Mr. E. J. Banner.

There is no great shortage of houses in the area except at Grindleton as mentioned in my last report. Complaints are frequently being received in this respect by people, many of whom come to work in the village daily and live in the area of other local authorities. As private enterprise does not seem to meet the need, the Council considered the provision of houses to allay the shortage, but the matter is in abeyance.

The total number of houses in the district is 1,471, and the number of working class houses included in the above is 1,415.

The Council is a member of the North-East Lancashire Regional Town Planning Committee, Region No. 1.

## **HOUSING STATISTICS**

### **1—Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—**

|  |      |
|--|------|
| (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) .....  | 378  |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose..   | 387  |
| (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925.....        | Nil. |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose..   | Nil. |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.....                                    | Nil. |
| (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation..... | 26   |

### **2—Remedy of Defects during the Year without service of Formal Notices :—**

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers..... | 37 |
|--|----|

### 3—Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :—

#### (a)—PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 9, 10 AND 16 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936 :

|  |      |
|--|------|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs..... | 10   |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—     |      |
| (a) By Owners.....   | 6    |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners....  | Nil. |

#### (b) PROCEEDINGS UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS :

|  |      |
|--|------|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ..... | 3    |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—              |      |
| (a) By Owners.....   | 2    |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners....  | Nil. |

#### (c) PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTION 11 AND 13 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936 :

|  |      |
|--|------|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made..... | Nil. |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.....    | Nil. |

#### (d) PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTION 12 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936 :

|  |      |
|--|------|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made .....   | Nil. |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit..... | Nil. |

**4—Housing Act, 1936, Part iv.—Overcrowding :—**

|  |      |
|--|------|
| (a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year.....  | 5    |
| (ii) Number of families dwelling therein.....  | 5    |
| (iii) Number of persons dwelling therein.....  | 26½  |
| (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year.....  | Nil. |
| (c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year.....  | 12   |
| (ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases..   | 64   |
| (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after abatement .....  | Nil. |
| (c) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the M.O.H. may consider it desirable to report :<br>Houses now in course of erection by the Council will relieve the remaining cases of overcrowding. |      |

**SECTION E. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD**

**(a) Milk Supply ; and (b) Meat and other Food**

These are fully dealt with in the report of Mr. E. J. Banner.

**(c) Adulteration, &c. ; and (d) Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food**

The District is periodically inspected under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, by the County Council, and I am informed that during the year 1937, 4 samples of milk and 5 of other foods were collected by the County Sampling Officer). All were found to be genuine on analysis.

**(e) Nutrition**

No action, regarding dissemination of knowledge on this subject, was taken.

It is desirable, however, that the Council should co-operate with the campaign now being conducted by the Ministry of Health, with a view to bringing home to the people the importance of nutrition and physical fitness, and the methods of obtaining it.

In an area such as this, help could be given by means of films and lectures on health subjects to such bodies as schools and Institutes. Valuable suggestions and films on loan are available from the Central Council for Health Education, Russell Square, W.C.1.

**(f) Shell Fish**

No action necessary.

**SECTION F. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER,  
INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES**

There was a very widespread epidemic of Influenza during January and February affecting England and Wales generally. A large number of cases occurred in this area and it was necessary to close the schools as previously indicated. The epidemic, however, was of a fairly mild type and only one fatal case (an elderly person) ensued.

As the table subjoined shows, the incidence of notifiable infectious disease was again rather low.

The immunisation of school children, willing to be immunised against diphtheria was completed and, in this connection, it is of particular interest to note that although there were still three cases of the disease reported, all three occurred in people who had not been immunised, people between the ages of 20 and 35. Previously diphtheria has generally affected children, it would appear now likely that in this immunised area it will become more an affection of non-immunised adults. Not one child who received the protective treatment contracted the disease.

It is highly desirable that the parents, who declined at first the offer of immunisation, should secure this protection for their children and so help to stamp out this disease.

As regards other diseases in the area, there were outbreaks of Whooping Cough at Gisburn in January and October ; Chicken Pox in Waddington and West Bradford in December ; and several cases of Chicken Pox and Scarlet Fever in Bashall Eaves in June. All these outbreaks were, on the whole, mild.

Apart from the Influenza epidemic, the year was an exceptionally healthy one in this area as in the country generally. In this connection it is of interest to recall that the rainfall was the third lowest recorded in the last ninety years.

Measles serum is now in use for prevention and attenuation of that disease.

Only two cases were removed to Isolation Hospital (Austwick), one Diphtheria, and one Scarlet Fever.

School intimations of disease are utilised in the control of outbreaks of infectious disease.

The following table shows the number of cases of infectious diseases (excluding tuberculosis) reported during the year, compared with the number in the preceding four years :—

|                              | 1933 | 1934 | 1935 | 1936 | 1937 |
|------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Small Pox.....               | ..   | ..   | ..   | ..   | ..   |
| Scarlet Fever.....           | 19   | 22   | 2    | 1    | 4    |
| Diphtheria.....              | ..   | 2    | 4    | 3    | 3    |
| Enteric Fever.....           | ..   | ..   | ..   | ..   | ..   |
| Puerperal Pyrexia.....       | ..   | ..   | 2    | ..   | 1    |
| Puerperal Fever.....         | ..   | ..   | ..   | 1    | ..   |
| Pneumonia .....              | 7    | 3    | 5    | 4    | 6    |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum.....   | 1    | 1    | ..   | 1    | 1    |
| Acute Poliomyelitis.....     | ..   | ..   | ..   | ..   | ..   |
| Encephalitis Lethargica..... | ..   | ..   | ..   | ..   | ..   |
| Erysipelas .....             | ..   | ..   | ..   | 3    | 3    |
| Anthrax .....                | ..   | ..   | ..   | 2    | ..   |
|                              | 27   | 28   | 14   | 15   | 18   |

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR, 1937

The following analysis of cases of all the infectious diseases notified, and deaths therefrom under the various age groups, are given as requested by the Ministry of Health.

| Notifiable Diseases           | Total cases at all ages | TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED |     |     |     |     |      |       |       |       |       | HOSPITAL |           |   |   |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------|-----------|---|---|
|                               |                         | Under 1              | 1-2 | 2-3 | 3-4 | 4-5 | 5-10 | 10-15 | 15-20 | 20-35 | 35-45 | 45-65    | 65 & over | Total Deaths in cases removed to Hospital | Total Deaths of persons belonging to District |
| Scarlet Fever . . .           | 4                       | ..                   | ..  | ..  | 1   | ..  | 1    | 1     | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..       | ..        | 1   | ..  |
| Diphtheria . . . .            | 3                       | ..                   | ..  | ..  | ..  | ..  | ..   | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..       | ..        | 1   | ..  |
| Acute Primary Pneumonia . . . | 5                       | ..                   | ..  | ..  | ..  | ..  | ..   | ..    | ..    | ..    | 2     | 1        | ..        | ..  | 3   |
| Influenza . . . .             | 1                       | ..                   | ..  | ..  | ..  | ..  | ..   | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..       | ..        | ..  | ..  |
| Pneumonia . . . .             | 3                       | ..                   | ..  | ..  | ..  | ..  | ..   | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..    | 2        | 1         | ..  | ..  |
| Erysipelas . . . .            | 1                       | 1                    | ..  | ..  | ..  | ..  | ..   | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..       | ..        | ..  | 1   |
| Ophthalmia . . . .            | 1                       | ..                   | ..  | ..  | ..  | ..  | ..   | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..       | ..        | ..  | ..  |
| Neonatorum . . . .            | 1                       | ..                   | ..  | ..  | ..  | ..  | ..   | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..       | ..        | ..  | ..  |
| Puerperal Pyrexia . . . .     | 1                       | ..                   | ..  | ..  | ..  | ..  | ..   | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..       | ..        | ..  | ..  |
| Totals . . . .                | 18                      | 1                    | ..  | ..  | ..  | 1   | ..   | 1     | 1     | 1     | 6     | ..       | 5         | 2   | 3   |
|                               |                         |                      |     |     |     |     |      |       |       |       |       |          |           |   | 4   |

In addition, the death occurred at age 41 of a case of Encephalitis Lethargica, the disease not having been notified.

(a) **Cancer** ; (b) **Prevention of Blindness** ; (c) **Tuberculosis** (Law relating to milk trade and compulsory removal).

No special action has been deemed necessary re (a), (b), or (c).

Cases of Cancer requiring Radium are treated at Blackburn Infirmary or Manchester Hospitals.

### **TUBERCULOSIS—New Cases and Mortality during 1937**

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Number of primary notifications received from medical practitioners on Form 'A'..... | 4        |
| Unnotified cases (obtained from Death Returns).....                                  | 0        |
| <b>Total.....</b>  | <b>4</b> |

The notification of Tuberculosis therefore, was well carried out.

### **Localisation of Disease—**

|                                    | M.          | F.          | Total    |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|----------|
| Pulmonary Tuberculosis.....        | —           | 2 ..        | 2        |
| Tuberculosis of Bones and Joints.. | 1 ..        | — ..        | 1        |
| Tuberculosis of Eye.....           | 1 ..        | — ..        | 1        |
| <b>Totals.....</b>                 | <b>2 ..</b> | <b>2 ..</b> | <b>4</b> |

### **Occupations of Patients—**

|                    | Pulmonary   | Non-Pulmonary |
|--------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Weaver .....       | 1 ..        | — ..          |
| Housewife .....    | 1 ..        | — ..          |
| Schoolboy .....    | — ..        | 1 ..          |
| Farm Labourer..... | — ..        | 1 ..          |
| <b>2 ..</b>        | <b>....</b> | <b>2</b>      |

The following table shows the age periods of new cases :—

NEW CASES

| Age Periods    | Pulmonary |    | Non-Pulmonary |    |
|----------------|-----------|----|---------------|----|
|                | M.        | F. | M.            | F. |
| 0—1            | —         | .. | —             | .. |
| 1—5            | —         | .. | —             | .. |
| 5—10           | —         | .. | —             | 1  |
| 10—15          | —         | .. | —             | .. |
| 15—20          | —         | .. | 1             | .. |
| 20—25          | —         | .. | —             | 1  |
| 25—35          | —         | .. | —             | .. |
| 35—45          | —         | .. | —             | .. |
| 45—55          | —         | .. | —             | .. |
| 55—65          | —         | .. | 1             | .. |
| 65 and upwards | —         | .. | —             | .. |
|                | —         | 2  | ..            | 2  |
| Total          | ..        | 4  | ..            | —  |

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF CASES NOTIFIED  
DURING THE PAST TEN YEARS

| Year | PULMONARY |    | NON-PULMONARY |    |    | Total |    |
|------|-----------|----|---------------|----|----|-------|----|
|      | M.        | F. | M.            | F. |    |       |    |
| 1928 | 2         | .. | 5             | 3  | .. | —     | 10 |
| 1929 | 4         | .. | 1             | 1  | .. | 1     | 7  |
| 1930 | —         | .. | 4             | —  | .. | 5     | 9  |
| 1931 | 4         | .. | 4             | 1  | .. | —     | 9  |
| 1932 | 4         | .. | 2             | 4  | .. | 2     | 12 |
| 1933 | 3         | .. | 2             | 2  | .. | 2     | 9  |
| 1934 | 1         | .. | 1             | 2  | .. | 1     | 5  |
| 1935 | 2         | .. | 2             | —  | .. | 1     | 5  |
| 1936 | 1         | .. | 2             | —  | .. | —     | 3  |
| 1937 | —         | .. | 2             | 2  | .. | —     | 4  |

It is satisfactory to note that the downward trend of the figures of new cases of Tuberculosis notified is continued. The figures for the last five years are almost half the figures for the preceding five years.

## **Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925**

No action has been necessary.

## **Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62**

No case was dealt with.

### **COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS DURING THE PAST TEN YEARS**

| Year | PULMONARY |      | NON-PULMONARY |      |  | Total |
|------|-----------|------|---------------|------|--|-------|
|      | M.        | F.   | M.            | F.   |  |       |
| 1928 | —         | .. 2 | —             | .. — |  | 2     |
| 1929 | 2         | .. 2 | 1             | .. — |  | 5     |
| 1930 | —         | .. — | —             | .. 1 |  | 1     |
| 1931 | 1         | .. 1 | —             | .. — |  | 2     |
| 1932 | —         | .. 1 | —             | .. 2 |  | 3     |
| 1933 | 3         | .. 1 | —             | .. — |  | 4     |
| 1934 | —         | .. — | —             | .. — |  | —     |
| 1935 | 1         | .. 2 | —             | .. — |  | 3     |
| 1936 | —         | .. 1 | —             | .. — |  | 1     |
| 1937 | 1         | .. 1 | —             | .. — |  | 2     |

### **1—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces**

| Premises<br>(1)   | Number of   |                    |                         |
|---|-------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
|   | Inspections | Written<br>Notices | Occupiers<br>Prosecuted |
| Factories (including Factory<br>Laundries) .....        | 6           | ..                 | ..                      |
| Workshops (including Work-<br>shop Laundries) .....     | 70          | ..                 | ..                      |
| Workplaces (other than Out-<br>workers' premises) ..... | ..          | ..                 | ..                      |
| Total .....   | 76          | ..                 | ..                      |

## **2—Defects Found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces**

None.

## **3—Outwork in Unwholesome Premises**

None.

### **Air Raid Precautions**

Consideration was given to questions of first aid posts, first aid parties, ambulance services, decontamination services, recruitment of personnel, etc., at several meetings during the year, and the Council is about to prepare a scheme which offers suitable precautions for this small and scattered rural area.







